

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PARIS 10844 140841Z
ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T PARIS 10844

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC, TECH, FR, PK, US
SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON PAKISTAN REPROCESSING PLANT

REF: PARIS 09761

1. FRENCH MFA SCIENCE DIRECTOR NAZELLE PROVIDED EMBOFF WITH BRIEF STATUS REPORT ON THE BLUEPRINTS FOR PRINCIPAL PIECES OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE PAKISTAN REPROCESSING PLANT AS HE PROMISED NYE AND SIEVERING ON APRIL 1 (SEE PARA 12 REFTEL).
2. DRAWINGS OF PRINCIPAL PIECES OF EQUIPMENT WERE DELIVERED TO PAKISTAN FOR INCLUSION IN THE PACKAGES OF INFORMATION SENT OUT TO PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS. THESE DRAWINGS WERE IN SUFFICIENT DETAIL TO SPECIFY WHAT WAS TO BE COVERED IN THE BIDS AND THE FOLLOW-ON CONTRACTS. BLUEPRINTS OR DETAILED DRAWINGS OF THE ACTUAL PIECES OF EQUIPMENT ARE NORMALLY PREPARED BY THE EQUIPMENT CONTRACTOR AND SUPPLIED TO THE PURCHASER WITH THE EQUIPMENT WHEN IT IS DELIVERED.
3. A FEW PIECES OF EQUIPMENT HAVE ALREADY BEEN CONTRACTED. THEIR TOTAL COST IS A FEW MILLION FRANCS.

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THESE CONTRACTS DID NOT REQUIRE SPECIAL FINANCING. TWO CONTRACTS (ONE IS FOR THE CHOPPING MACHINE) REQUIRE FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS WHICH ARE TO BE MADE WITH THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT. THESE TWO CONTRACTS HAVE BEEN PENDING GOF APPROVAL OF THE FINANCING TERMS. IT IS THIS DELAY THAT NAZELLE HAS REFERRED TO AS ALREADY HAVING BEEN ABOUT AS LONG AS THE GOF CAN AFFORD BEFORE

PAKISTAN MAY CHALLENGE ITS PLEDGE UNDER THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT NOT TO IMPEDE THE PROGRESS OF THE CONTRACT. IN NAZELLE'S VIEW, FORMAL GOF APPROVAL IS NOT REQUIRED TO EXPORT THE PIECES OF EQUIPMENT BUILT IN FRANCE FOR THE PAKISTAN REPROCESSING PLANT.

4. NAZELLE ALSO NOTED THAT A PROPOSED TRAINING PROGRAM FOR REPROCESSING PLANT TECHNICIANS AND ENGINEERS IS UNDER REVIEW BY THE GOF AND HAS NOT YET BEEN APPROVED. THIS PROGRAM WAS DEVELOPED IN MID-1976 AND FORMALLY REQUESTED BY PAKISTAN IN OCTOBER, 1976. MOST OF THE PROPOSED TRAINING OF THE PAKISTANI PLANT STAFF WOULD BE DONE IN FRANCE. NAZELLE SAID THE PROGRAM WOULD FOCUS ON THE SPECIFIC TECHNOLOGY OF THE ST. GOBAIN PLANT AS SOME OF THE PAKISTANI STAFF WAS EXPERIENCED IN REPROCESSING. NAZELLE NOTED HE UNDERSTOOD PAKISTAN HAS THE CAPABILITY NOW TO REPROCESS SPENT FUEL FROM THE CANDU REACTOR IN PAKISTAN.
GAMMON

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 14-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
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